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FOR P/M, P/PFL. AR FOR OGLESBY, LEROY, VIRDEN,  
STATE FOR ARA/SC, DURKEE, SWIGERT

E.O. 12356: N/A

SUBJ: PRESS COVERAGE SENATOR KENNEDY VISIT TO CHILE

## SUMMARY

CHILEAN MEDIA COVERAGE OF SENATOR KENNEDY'S VISIT TO CHILE, JAN. 15, CONTINUED HEAVY OVER THE PERIOD JAN. 18-21. IN ALL, 3 EDITORIALS, 2 EDITORIAL ANALYSES, 9 SIGNED OPINION PIECES, AND NUMEROUS NEWS SUMMARIES AND SEPARATE NEWS ACCOUNTS ON GOC STATEMENTS OR ACTIONS WERE GENERATED BY THE CHILEAN MEDIA DURING THE FOUR-DAY SPAN.

THE GREAT BULK OF MEDIA ATTENTION CONTINUED TO FOCUS ON PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED BY THE SENATOR WHILE HERE, WITH THE MEDIA (NOT INCLUDING THE OPPOSITION PRESS), GENERALLY REPORTING A WIDE RANGE OF OPINIONS AND REACTIONS. STATE DEPARTMENT COMMENTS ON THE VISIT AND LOCAL REACTIONS TO THEM WERE GIVEN WIDE PLAY IN ALL SANTIAGO DAILIES, AND ON RADIO AND TELEVISION. THE OPPOSITION PRESS REPORTED WIDELY ON THE VISIT BUT EMPHASIZED THE PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED BY THE KENNEDY PARTY AND WHAT THEY VIEWED AS GOC RESPONSIBILITY FOR THOSE PROBLEMS.  
EDITORIALS

GOC "LA NACION" JANUARY 18 EDITORIAL UNDER HEAD "FOREIGN VISITS" STATED "CHILE HAS ALWAYS BEEN CHARACTERIZED BY ITS HOSPITALITY;... THE FOREIGN VISITORS WHO HAVE RECENTLY RECEIVED OUR HOSPITALITY CAN CONFIRM THAT. THOSE WHO HAVE COME BLINDED BY ALREADY ESTABLISHED PREJUDICE HAVE BEEN ABLE, ALSO FREELY, TO STOP OVER IN CHILE AND REENFORCE THEIR (PREJUDICED) ATTITUDES."

OPPOSITION SOCIAL DEMOCRAT WEEKLY "CAUCE" EDITORIAL UNDER HEAD "FEELING ASHAMED" STATES "THE VISIT OF ONE OF THE WORLD'S OUTSTANDING POLITICAL PERSONALITIES GAVE RISE TO A SHAMEFUL SPECTACLE. THE VIOLENT AND AGGRESSIVE DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST THE PRESENCE IN CHILE OF SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY HAVE BROUGHT NEW REASONS FOR A LOSS OF

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INTERNATIONAL PRESTIGE AND PROVOKED IMMEDIATE AND NEGATIVE REACTIONS. THE GRAVE AND PAINFUL FACT IS MADE EVEN GREATER WHEN, ACCORDING TO A U.S. SPOKESMAN, THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT COULD NOT BE SAID TO HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM THESE ACTIONS OR, AT THE VERY LEAST, STOOD BY PASSIVELY AND ALLOWED THEM TO TAKE PLACE."

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC WEEKLY "HOY" EDITORIAL BY ACTING EDITOR ABRAHAM SANTIBANEZ UNDER HEAD "LIKE A WHIRLWIND" STATES "NO ONE WITH CLEAR POLITICAL JUDGEMENT COULD HOPE THAT THE BRIEF AND AGITATED PASSAGE THROUGH CHILE OF SENATOR KENNEDY COULD PROVOKE ANY MAGIC CHANGE IN THE SITUATION. ONLY THE FEVERISH OFFICIAL CAMPAIGN AND VIOLENT INCIDENTS BY SMALL GROUPS OF EXTREMISTS COULD GIVE THE VISIT THE UNIMAGINABLE PROJECTION WHICH IT ULTIMATELY HAD". "HOY" ALSO NOTED THAT IN CONTRAST TO THE BEHAVIOR OF OTHERS "THE OPPOSITION, SO OFTEN CRITICIZED AND SELF-CRITICAL... GAVE A DEMONSTRATION OF SERENITY AND BALANCE."

PRESTIGIOUS DAILY "EL MERCURIO" JANUARY 19, 3 PART EDITORIAL PAGE COMMENTARY UNDER HEAD "IN THE AFTERMATH OF A VISIT" STATES "FROM A U.S. INTERNAL POINT OF VIEW, THE VISIT OF SENATOR KENNEDY TO CHILE HAD A CLEAR POLITICAL MOTIVE. CHILE REPRESENTED AN EXCEPTION (ON THE TOUR)... IT IS POSSIBLE TO BELIEVE THAT HERE KENNEDY WOULD LOOK FOR AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A PUBLIC CONFRONTATION WITH THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT THAT COULD ... BEAR EVEN RICHER POLITICAL FRUIT IN THE UNITED STATES THAN HIS RECENT ... INTERVIEW WITH MINISTER BOTHA OF SOUTH AFRICA. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE PERSPECTIVE OF BEING AN OBJECT OF MANIPULATION AND UTILIZATION FOR INTERNAL U.S. POLITICAL MOTIVES WERE THE ULTIMATE REASON WHICH MOVED THE (GOC) TOWARD AVOIDANCE OF CONTACT (WITH THE SENATOR).

"IT IS PROBABLE THAT THE SAME FEAR MOVED CARDINAL (FRESNO) OF SANTIAGO TO NOT MODIFY HIS SCHEDULE TO PERMIT A MEETING WITH KENNEDY WHO DID, HOWEVER, MEET WITH CARDINAL SILVA WHO CARRIED A FRIENDLY MESSAGE FROM CARDINAL FRESNO."

UNDER SEPARATE HEAD SAME COMMENTARY "COMMENTS BY KENNEDY" "MERCURIO" STATES "ALTHOUGH IT SEEMS PARADOXICAL, THE OUTCOME OF THE KENNEDY VISIT MAY NOT NECESSARILY BE NEGATIVE FOR THE MILITARY REGIME..."

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"THE LAST STATEMENT OF THE U.S. VISITOR SHOWED US THAT IN THE FUTURE HIS BEHAVIOR AND PARLIAMENTARY INFLUENCE OVER CHILE COULD FOCUS ON ACHIEVING THE PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES ESTABLISHED IN THE (NATIONAL ACCORD). IN THE FUTURE ... IT MIGHT BE HOPED THAT HIS (KENNEDY'S) EMPHASIS WILL BE ON FORMULATING CONCRETE DEMANDS OF THE REGIME WITH REGARD TO THE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS (CALLED FOR BY THE ACCORD)."  
SIGNED OPINION PIECES

HIGH CIRCULATION "MERCURIO" CHAIN DAILY "LAS ULTIMAS NOTICIAS" JANUARY 18 EDITORIAL PAGE COMMENTARY BY XAVIER LETURRIA, UDI LEADER, UNDER HEAD "THE FRIENDS OF MY MEMORIES" STATES "WHAT IS INSULTING AND INFURIATING IS THAT HE (MR. KENNEDY) WHO ELECTED TO PUT HIMSELF IN THE

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POSITION OF ENEMY OF OUR COUNTRY, HAD THE AUDACITY TO STEP ON OUR NATIONAL SOIL. MORE THAN AUDACITY. IT CONSTITUTED AN OBSCENITY. HIS ONLY STATEMENT, THAT CHILE HAS THE MOST REPRESSIVE GOVERNMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND OF THE WORLD, WAS REASON ENOUGH TO DENY HIM ENTRANCE AS A VISITOR.

"WHAT IS TRULY REPUGNANT IN THIS CASE IS TO SEE HOW CERTAIN PERSONALITIES WHO ARE INCLINED TOWARD OR DEPENDENT UPON INTERNATIONAL CONTACTS PRESENT THEMSELVES IN A SHAMELESS AND SUBSERVIENT WAY TO PRAISE AND ATTEND TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS SO SERIOUSLY DAMAGED ALL CHILEANS."

HIGHEST CIRCULATION DAILY "LA TERCERA" SAME DAY OP-ED COMMENTARY BY ARTURO VENEGAS, RADICAL PARTY LEADER, STATES "THE FACT THAT THERE IS DISAGREEMENT WITH KENNEDY DOES NOT JUSTIFY THE TOTALLY RUDE AND BRUTAL EXPRESSIONS MADE AGAINST A CONGRESSMAN ELECTED BY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE."

"LA TERCERA" JANUARY 19 EDITORIAL PAGE COMMENTARY P' CHILEAN AUTHOR AND INTELLECTUAL PABLO HUNEUS STATES "THE RECENT DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST HIM (KENNEDY) IN CHILE, IN ADDITION TO GIVING HIM WORLD-WIDE PUBLICITY, DEMONSTRATE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE EXACTLY WHAT HE HAS ARGUED FROM THE SENATE: THAT THE CHILEAN MILITARY REGIME DOES NOT RESPECT HUMAN RIGHTS."

TERCERA" COMMENTARY BY CONSERVATIVE, PRO-GOC WILLIAM THAYER STATES "I REPROACH SENATOR KENNEDY FOR THE LACK OF PERSPECTIVE AND PARTIALITY OF HIS JUDGEMENTS. CHILE IS NOT THE KINGDOM OF TORTURE, KIDNAPPING AND THROAT-CUTTING ANY MORE THAN THE U.S. IS THE KINGDOM OF THE MAFIA, OF DRUG CONSUMPTION AND OF PRESIDENTIAL ASSASSINATIONS." HOWEVER, THAYER CONTINUES. "I CENSURE IN THE MOST ENERGETIC WAY THE BRUTAL AND VIOLENT DEMONSTRATIONS TO WHICH HE WAS SUBJECTED."

"LAS ULTIMAS NOTICIAS" EDITORIAL PAGE COMMENTARY BY PROMINENT CHILEAN CONSERVATIVE JULIO DURAN STATES "THE CRITICISM AGAINST THE MAN WHO VISITED US IS NOT BASED UPON THE VIOLENCE WITH WHICH HE CAN ANALYZE THE NATIONAL STATE OF AFFAIRS (SIC) BUT UPON HIS ACTION IN CONGRESS WHICH LED HIM TO PROPOSE HIS (THE KENNEDY) AMENDMENT --- THE EXPLANATIONS GIVEN (RELATIVE TO THE AMENDMENT) ARE NOT SUFFICIENT. FOR THAT REASON WE WILL NEVER FORGET THE NAME OF KENNEDY NOR OF THOSE WHO APPLAUD HIM."

"ULTIMAS," JANUARY 20 EDITORIAL PAGE COMMENTARY BY CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC LEADER JUAN HAMILTON STATES "SENATOR KENNEDY ... IS THE MOST IMPORTANT VISITOR TO ARRIVE IN OUR COUNTRY IN THE LAST DECADE. IN THE FACE OF HIS VISIT TO CHILE, THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT HAD THE ALTERNATIVE OF GIVING OR DENYING AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER. TO AVOID THE POLITICAL COST (THE GOC) OPTED TO AUTHORIZE IT. MOREOVER, IT ... GUARANTEED HIS SECURITY. NOW THAT THE VISIT IS OVER, THE KIND OF COURTESY AND SECURITY HE WAS TO RECEIVE ARE EVIDENT. SO WAS BORN A NEW FORM OF VIOLENCE. UPPER CLASS TERRORISM PRACTICED BY UPPER CLASS YOUTH UNDER THE PROTECTION OF THE AUTHORITIES AND THE POLICE."

OPPOSITION WEEKLY "CAUCE" COMMENTARY BY COLUMNIST JORGE

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OVALLE STATES THAT THE IRRATIONAL ATTITUDE OF PRO-GOC FOLLOWERS "GAVE VIOLENT EXPRESSION TO A CAVE-STYLE CONCEPT OF POLITICS IN WHICH A POLITICAL ADVERSARY IS AN ENEMY --- THE CAVE MEN SHOULD LEARN THAT AN ATTACK AGAINST A U.S. SENATOR... IS AN ATTACK ON THE U.S. CONGRESS. MOREOVER IT IS AN ATTACK AGAINST PRESIDENT REAGAN, SINCE KENNEDY IS A PART OF HIS REGIME (SIC) AND NOT HIS ENEMY BUT A COLLABORATOR IN THE TASK OF BEING PART OF THE OPPOSITION TO HIS GOVERNMENT."

SAME PAGE COMMENTARY BY NATIONAL PARTY LEADER PEDRO CORREA UNDER HEAD "KENNEDY: MODERATION AND DEMOCRACY" STATES "THE VISIT OF SENATOR KENNEDY HAS HAD THE VIRTUE OF STRENGTHENING MODERATE POLITICAL POSITIONS IN CHILE.

"THE NATIONALISTS, BY OUR DEMOCRATIC NATURE, ARE TOLERANT, A VIRTUE WHICH HELPS US EXCHANGE OPINIONS...

BECAUSE OF THAT WE MET WITH MR. KENNEDY."  
"AT THE SAME TIME, THE KENNEDY VISIT SHOWED US A VERY NEGATIVE ASPECT - THAT IS THE GROWING POLITICAL POLARIZATION WHICH WE HAVE BEEN DENOUNCING AND WHICH WAS DEMONSTRATED ON THE 15TH IN ACTS OF VIOLENCE BY THE EXTREME RIGHT WHICH EMPLOYED THE SAME METHODS AS THE EXTREME LEFT."

"LA TERCERA" JANUARY 21 COMMENTARY BY ANDRES CHADWICK, UDI LEADER, UNDER HEAD "BALANCE OF A VISIT" STATES THAT UPON COMPLETION OF THE SENATOR'S VISIT, "SURELY HE HAS ACHIEVED HIS OBJECTIVE OF KNOWING FIRST HAND CHILEAN REALITY, AFTER REMAINING IN OUR COUNTRY FOR A SPACE OF 24 HOURS IN THE INTERIOR OF THE CIRCULO ESPANOL (KENNEDY HEADQUARTERS)." REFERRING TO POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF THE VISIT, CHADWICK NOTES THAT ONE POSITIVE ELEMENT IS THAT "THE DEMONSTRATION ORGANIZED BY UDI YOUTH AT PUDAHUEL AIRPORT PROVES THAT PROMINENT ECCLESIASTICS, STUDENTS AND LABOR LEADERS ARE NOT CLEAR ABOUT WHAT CONSTITUTES NATIONAL DIGNITY."

## REACTIONS

PROMINENT COVERAGE OVER THE JANUARY 18-21 PERIOD WAS ALSO GIVEN TO REACTIONS BY THE GOC AND A WIDE VARIETY OF CHILEANS WHO EITHER OPPOSED OR SUPPORTED THE KENNEDY VISIT. ALL SANTIAGO MEDIA CARRIED COMMENTS BY CHILEAN FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN PABLO VALDES THAT CHILEAN AMBASSADOR HERNAN FELIPE ERRAZURIZ HAD CONTACTED THE STATE DEPARTMENT REGARDING GOC SECURITY MEASURES SURROUNDING THE KENNEDY VISIT AS A RESULT OF STATE DEPARTMENT CRITICISM OF THOSE MEASURES. WHEN QUERIED REGARDING DIFFERENCES OF OPINION BETWEEN THE GOC AND THE DEPARTMENT, VALDES WAS QUOTED BY THE MEDIA AS SAYING "IT SEEMS TO ME THERE HAS NEVER BEEN ANY DIFFERENCE OF OPINION. WHAT THEY EXPRESSED, AT A GIVEN MOMENT, WAS A CONCERN, FROM REPORTS WHICH THEY RECEIVED IN WASHINGTON, THAT DID NOT REFLECT WHAT WAS REALLY HAPPENING."  
FRIEDMANN

END OF MESSAGE

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